

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
_____, WASHINGTON**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
SUBSURFACE DRAIN**

Sponsor/Land user: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Legal description of practice location: SEC _____ T _____ R _____

A properly operated and maintained subsurface drain is an asset to your farm. This subsurface drain was designed and installed to remove and safely discharge subsurface water from your farm. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of the structure can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Maintain the design depth of cover.
- Avoid travel by heavy equipment over drainlines when the soil is saturated except at designated crossings.
- Avoid travel over pipelines by tillage equipment when the soil is saturated.
- Avoid any subsoiling operation that may disturb the drain or its filter materials.
- Make sure that outlets are free flowing and rodent guards are in place.
- Non-fire resistant outlets need to be protected from weed-burning operations
- Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- Immediately remove any obstructions or blockage of, trash racks, drain inlets or drain outlets.

- All settlement, sink holes, cave-ins, or cracks in the soil should be investigated to determine the cause and immediately repaired.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to any outlets and appurtenances.
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR INSTALLATION

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE OFFICE FOR ANY ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE YOU MIGHT NEED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR YOUR STRUCTURE.